

'I THOUGHT WE'D NEVER MAKE IT' — CHARLTON

JACK CHARLTON, Middlesbrough manager: "We won't be put on the rack as much as we were today for a long time. With 25 minutes left I thought we'd never make it and on the day Wycombe really deserved to win. They caused us lots of problems. We couldn't string passes together and we certainly didn't expect to see Wycombe putting in so much running and challenge."

"Their backing up and chasing made life very difficult for us but I was delighted with our back play. They had to be strong and resolute and they were just that. I thought they were magnificent."

"That slope is frightening. It must be an advantage. I'm telling you it's dead flat at Ayresome Park and Wycombe are going to get a chasing. Nevertheless, I thought Wycombe Wanderers were magnificent today."

BRIAN LEE, Wycombe manager: "Before the game I didn't think we had a chance to win and I still stick by what I said. We must assume Middlesbrough didn't play as well as they are capable."

"I think we got a points decision today. Middlesbrough are not used to this kind of pressure and enthusiasm they received."

MICK HOLIFIELD: "My wrist didn't bother me much during the game. I fell on it once but came through O.K. I was really shattered at the end."

KEITH SEARLE: "Everyone worked so hard I felt we deserved it today. I thought we might have nicked a goal late in the game but there was nothing clear-cut. The effort by everyone was great and the vocal support was tremendous."

TONY HORSEMAN: "They were big and quick at the back and we didn't get the breaks. You only get one or two anyway in these kind of games. Still, we gave them a good game and I think we've got a chance in the replay."

JOHN MASKELL: "I wasn't half as excited as the games with Bournemouth, in fact I felt a bit deflated. I expected far more from Middlesbrough. This must have been one of my quietest games for a long time."

TERRY REARDON: "I was disappointed with Middlesbrough. I expected far more from a First Division side. They should have shown their class and authority but I heard them say shut up shop midway through the second half."

BRIAN MOORE, the 'Big Match' commentator: "It was a pleasure to be at Wycombe Wanderers on Saturday. I would like to thank the officials for making it such an enjoyable day."



Steve Perri